From: smithersx3@yahoo.com@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/15/02 5:24pm

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am extremely interested in having the anti-trust case against Microsoft resolved immediately. It appears to me that the main impetus for this whole matter is based on politics rather than market dynamics. Specifically, the states that seem to be resisting settlement are ones who host some of Microsoft's main competitors. While I believe that Microsoft has indeed engaged in anti-competitive acts, namely in the area of restrictive licensing agreements, I fail to see how Microsoft is a monopoly. The public has always had other options regarding personal computer operating systems in the form of SCO Xenix, SCO Unix, MacOS, Geos, and Linux. All of these are viable operating systems. Microsoft should be rewarded for providing the product that the vast majority of users want to use, not punished for it. No one is forced to use Microsoft products. The market has spoken and it has chosen Microsoft Windows. It seems that the bulk of the anti-trust case is sour grapes of Microsoft's competitors.

CC: smithersx3@yahoo.com@inetgw